

# THE LANCASTER NEWS

VOL. 11, No. 41, SEMI-WEEKLY.

LANCASTER, S. C. MARCH 3, 1916.

\$1.50 A YEAR.

## WILSON WOULD SHOW THIS COUNTRY UNITED

The President Calls for "Show Down" in Congress on Resolutions Warning Americans Off Armed Ships.

### WRITES ACTING HEAD OF RULES COMMITTEE

Administration Leaders Confident Each Body Will Give Vote of Confidence in Chief Executive.

Washington, Feb. 29.—President Wilson decided to-day that he cannot proceed with the German submarine negotiations while dissension in Congress weakens his position before the world, so he called for a "show down" on the pending proposals to warn Americans off merchant ships of the American belligerents armed for defense.

Making clear that he considers the President, and not Congress, charged with the conduct of foreign relations of the United States, he wrote a letter to Representative Pou, acting chairman of the House rules committee, asking him to provide parliamentary means for bringing the agitation out into the open on the floor of the House for full discussion and a vote. Later he summoned Senator Stone and Representative Flood, chairmen of the foreign affairs committees, and Senator Kern, majority leader in the Senate, for a conference at the White House to-morrow morning, at which he will request that one the various pending resolutions be acted upon in both houses.

Administration leaders, working steadily for the last week strengthening their lines and counting on the support of the Republicans, now are so sure of their position that they plan to end all agitation with a vote of confidence in the President.

The President's letter to Mr. Pou, the signal that the Administration was ready to give Germany a demonstration of the unity, follows:

**The President's Letter.**  
"My Dear Mr. Pou: Inasmuch as I learn that Mr. Henry, the chairman of the committee on rules, is absent in Texas, I take the liberty of calling your attention, as ranking member of the committee, to a matter of grave concern to the country which can, I believe, be handled, under the rules of the House, only by that committee.

"The report that there are divided counsels in Congress in regard to the foreign policy of the Government is being made industriously use of in foreign capitals. I believe that report to be false, but so long as it is anywhere credited it cannot fail to do the greatest harm and expose the country to the most serious risks. I, therefore, feel justified in asking that your committee will permit me to urge an early vote upon the resolutions with regard to travel on armed merchantmen which have recently been so much talked about, in order that there may be afforded an immediate opportunity for full public discussion and action upon them, and all doubts and conjectures may be swept away and our foreign relations once more cleared of damaging misunderstandings.

"The matter is of so grave importance, and lies so clearly within the field of executive initiative, that I venture to hope that your committee will not think that I am taking unwarranted liberty in making this suggestion as to the business of the House, and I very earnestly commend it to their immediate consideration.

"Cordially and sincerely yours,

Woodrow Wilson.

Speaker Clark, Majority Leader Kitchin, Representative Flood and Representative Foster, of Illinois, conferred at the Capitol to-night and agreed to urge that the rules committee take no steps pending action by the foreign affairs committee, and that the foreign affairs commit-

## NEW METHOD FOR FLOOD PREVENTION

John Bryan Has Scheme for Canal System.

Washington, March 1.—What is described as a new method of flood prevention to be accomplished by the construction of "shallow, graduated diversion canals" to connect the bends in a river to allow a straightway flow of water at flood time was explained to the house committee on flood control today by its inventor, John Bryan of Yellow Springs, Ohio, a second cousin of William Jennings Bryan.

The committee recently returned from an inspection of the flood district in Mississippi river valley. To-day's hearing was the first of a series on the subject. With the use of maps and models, Mr. Bryan explained that his plans are designed for any river.

Under Mr. Bryan's plans canals of masonry would be constructed across peninsulas at the bends of rivers. The intake of the canal would be on the level with the normal surface water of the river and at flood time the water would be diverted and excess waters would be carried away nearly fifty times faster than through the natural channel. The natural crooked river channel would be maintained, however.

### MAN TRIES TO KILL WIFE. THEN TAKES HIS OWN LIFE

R. Lee Johnson, of Kershaw County, Commits Suicide in Fit of Despondency.

Camden, March 2.—R. Lee Johnson, a white man of about forty-five years of age, of Bethune, this county, in a despondent mood, killed himself to-day after having assaulted his wife with an axe. According to the report, a neighbor came to the Johnson home and Johnson expressed his gratitude at his timely arrival, stating, it is claimed, that he had intended upon finishing his shave to end his life, but that he would end it some time during the day. No attention was paid to this. Later in the day the children were sent on various errands and Johnson secured a shell from his single-barrel shotgun. Going to the rear of his house, he cut part of an axe handle off and as Mrs. Johnson went to the yard from the kitchen, where she was preparing dinner, struck her in the head with the axe. He then turned the gun on himself, blowing the back of his head partly off, dying almost instantly.

When the body was discovered one shoe had been removed and it is supposed Johnson discharged the gun by pulling the trigger with his toe. There were no eye witnesses to the affair.

### TILLMAN ON PREPAREDNESS

Washington, March 1.—Senator Tillman to-day told the Senate that it should be less dilatory in expediting preparedness legislation and declared that the legislative program could not be completed at the present rate of progress, before October. He gave notice that he would move to take up and press to a vote the bill to provide for a Government armor plant as soon as the Shields water-power bill was disposed of.

"When the Senate wants to it can do business as rapidly and with as much celerity as any legislative body in the world," he said, "but it also can practice the game of 'how not to do it' with more skill than any other body in the world—at least any I have known of or read about.

"The people sent us here to pass laws and legislate for the whole country; and I always believed faithful and efficient service was the best way to be continued here."

### Order for Chick Springs.

Spartanburg, Feb. 26.—Judge Thomas A. Sesse to-day signed an order requiring the Chick Springs Company to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed, the order being returnable before Judge H. F. Rice March 1.

## GERMANS AGAIN ATTACK VERDUN

Renew Offensive Against Strong Hold With Several Fierce Attacks.

### CHECKED WITH LOSS, ACCORDING TO PARIS

Teutonic Forces Said to Have Suffered Heavily in New Drive British Regain Lost Ground on Ypres-Comines Canal. No Changes Elsewhere.

The Germans have resumed their offensive around Verdun with the French strongly opposing it. While over most of the front, from the east of the Meuse to the Woivre region, the German big guns have been active, around Dou Aumont the Teutons launched several very violent infantry attacks. These the French war office declares, were put down by the French troops, whose fire decimated the enemy ranks. Le Monte Homme, the Cote du Poivre and Dou Aumont sector particularly have suffered heavy bombardments.

Northeast of St. Mihiel the French guns have been working effectively against the German positions. In Alsace, in the region of Seppois, a heavy artillery duel has been in progress.

Dispatches from both Berlin and Paris point to the difficulties of a farther advance in this region. The French positions, Paris points out, stretch along the heights from which the ground drops abruptly to the Woivre plain with its moist clay soil, across which the transport of the heaviest of the German artillery, on ground away from the high roads, is held to be almost impossible, while attacking troops would have to deploy in the open under the fire of the French guns on the heights.

Berlin commentators, however, advance the view that the Teutons previously have shown that similar disadvantageous conditions could be successfully met, the storming of the heights just to the south by the Germans in 1914 when St. Mihiel was captured being pointed to in this connection.

From Dutch sources come reports that the German drive is to be resumed from the northeast, 90,000 men having been concentrated near Buzy, behind Fort Vaux, which is said to have been destroyed by the German heavy mortars.

Estimates of the German losses in the offensive are running high in entente quarters, one from Paris placing them at between 125,000 and 130,000. All accounts from German sources, however, have declared that their casualties were surprisingly small.

The British along the Ypres-Comines canal have reversed the German victory of February 14 by retaking the 800 yards of trenches which the Teutons captured at that time. The German mine galleries in the trenches were destroyed and four officers and 176 men were captured. In addition French guns have destroyed a German work in the region of Beuvraignes, which lies between the Somme and Oise rivers.

### Mapping Signs Anti-Compact Bill.

Columbia, March 2.—Governor Manning this afternoon signed the "anti-compact" bill driving the Southeastern Association out of South Carolina in "the brokerage" measure assessing a yearly license and percentage on all premiums on all non-resident insurance companies. In a statement issued when he signed the bill Governor Manning said he considered it his duty to approve the measures, and that there was evidently something the matter with insurance rates in the State and that the "anti-compact" bill will give open competition. At a meeting recently held in New York certain insurance companies decided to withdraw from the State should the anti-compact bill become a law.

## PUTS REGULAR ARMY LIMIT AT 190,000

Military Committee of House Unanimous in Agreeing on Bill for Increase.

### PEACE STRENGTH 700,000

Measure Before House Early Next Week—Senate Committee Acts To-day.

Washington, March 2.—Final decision was rendered by the House military committee late to-day upon its bill for the increase of the army, and it will be reported unanimously to the House early next week. In round figures, the measure would authorize the formation of an army composed of regulars, National guardsmen and federal volunteers with a total peace strength of approximately 700,000 men.

It provides for a maximum strength of 170,000 fighting troops for the regular army, for a minimum of 425,000 for the National Guard within five years and for organization of federal volunteers through an extension of the summer training camp idea. It is estimated that 100,000 men can be enrolled in the latter force.

### Industrial Reserves.

The bill retains provisions for reorganization of industrial and technical reserves and authorizes the creation of a board of officers to control an industrial mobilization in time of war or imminence of war. It also provides that manufacturers of war materials must give immediate preference to Government orders in war time, or when there is danger of war, under heavy penalty for failure to do so.

While the minimum strength of the regular army remained at 140,000, a change was made before the final vote to fix the maximum of fighting troops at 170,000, bringing the total authorized strength of the regular force, including the hospital corps and other non-combatant troops, to 190,000.

### May Support Amendments.

Although all members of the committee will sign the bill, they do so under the reservation that they may support upon the floor of the House any amendment they desire.

The Senate military committee expects to vote finally upon its army bill to-morrow; and it is possible the first of the preparedness measures urged by President Wilson will be placed before both houses of Congress Saturday. Arrangements to expedite their consideration already have been made.

The House committee inserted only general provision for a Government plant to make nitric acid, leaving details to be worked out later in an appropriation measure.

### MRS. JANE NEAL DIES AT VERY GREAT AGE

Blackstock Woman Passes Away After Century Mark is Passed. Funeral To-day.

Chester, March 2.—Mrs. Jane Neal, the oldest person in Chester county and one of the oldest in the State, passed away this morning at her home on the northern outskirts of Blackstock, death coming as the natural finale to length of years and gradual breakdown and not being a surprise to friends and kindred. Had Mrs. Neal lived until May 4 she would have been 102 years of age.

### Laurens Is Now Without Charter

Laurens, Mar. 2.—The city of Laurens as a municipality, it has been discovered, is without a charter. An investigation of the matter reveals the fact that the charter granted by special act of the legislature December 23, 1890, incorporating the city of Laurens for a period of 25 years has expired, and so far no general act has been found in the statutes that would automatically continue and keep in force the charter of 1890.

## RUSSIAN EXPENSE EXCEEDS REVENUE

Budget Carries Estimate of 3,022,049,318 Rubles.

Petrograd, via London, March 1.—The budget, presented to the Duma yesterday, showed an ordinary estimated revenue of 3,022,049,318 rubles, an estimated ordinary expenditure of 3,232,463,698 rubles, the excess of expenditure over revenue being 210,414,280. The expenses included in the budget, constitute only part of the total expenses and the war expense, which is not included in the budget, may exceed the ordinary expenditure two or three times. The most important decrease in the estimated revenue occurred from that of alcoholic drinks, which figured only 9,000,000 rubles as compared with 689,000,000 in 1914. With the items classed as extraordinary expenditure the budget shows a total expenditure of 3,588,156,510 rubles, the excess expenditure over revenue being 377,107,192.

The extraordinary expenses due to the war amounted to 8,000,000,000 rubles in 1915 and are expected to reach 11,000,000,000 in 1916 if the war lasts the entire year. The latter expense, together with the budget deficit, must be covered by means of credit operations.

### "CARMEN SYLVA" DEAD

Queen Mother Elizabeth, of Roumania Passes at Advanced Age.

London, March 2.—A Bucharest dispatch received by Reuters via Amsterdam, says that the Queen Mother Elizabeth of Roumania (Carmen Sylva) died this morning.

The pen name "Carmen Sylva," by which the Queen Mother Elizabeth of Roumania was most widely known, was chosen by her in expression of her love for song and the woods. She was one of the most charming figures in the courts of Europe, and practically the only one of recent generations to gain fame as a poetess.

In her own words she was born "far from a throne," for altho she was a Princess of Wied, one of the many tiny principalities with which Germany abounded, her youth was that of an ordinary robust country girl, who learned to cook and sew and who romped in the open with her companions at the village school. She was born December 29, 1843 and in her childhood she showed predilection for the poetical fancies that had such an influence on her later life. She absorbed innumerable fairy stories and, with some of her own imagination added, she delighted her playmates with her fancies. At home she received Spartan training, and with a father who was an invalid for life, and a brother who was incurably ill, she experienced many sorrows and hardships.

### DesCHAMPS TO RUN.

Will Be One of the Democratic Contestants for Governor.

Columbia, March 1.—James M. DesChamps of Columbia, announced yesterday that he will be a candidate for governor in the approaching Democratic primaries.

Mr. DesChamps is a native of South Carolina, a farmer and a lecturer and author. He has an extended acquaintance in the State, having resided at different times in his life in five South Carolina counties. For the last few years he has been living in this city. Mr. DesChamps is opposed to factionalism and believes that Democrats should exercise the right of independent thinking, as his platform of principles indicates.

### Return True Bill Against Beard.

Abbeville, March 1.—The grand jury in the court of general sessions here today returned a true bill in the case against W. P. Beard, charging him with criminal libel. The warrant was sworn out by J. P. Gossett, president of the Williamson cotton mills, and grew out of the publication of certain articles in Beard's paper regarding the Calhoun Falls cotton mill of which Gossett is the president.

## SUPPORT WILSON FOR RE-ELECTION

New York Democrats Hold Harmonious Convention at Syracuse.

### FULL ENDORSEMENT

Administration Commended for All Its Policy—Elihu Root Sternly Rebuked.

Syracuse, N. Y., March 1.—In a keynote speech Democrats of New York State assembled in informal convention to-night, ratified the administration of President Wilson, and took steps to bring about his re-election. Harmony marked the conventions deliberations, every proposal being adopted unanimously.

The following delegates-at-large to the National Democratic Convention at St. Louis were recommended for the support of the party voters at the Spring primaries:

United States Senator James O'Gorman, William Church Osborn, chairman of the Democratic State Committee; George J. Meyer of Buffalo, a German-American supporter of the President, and Samuel Untermyer, a New York attorney.

The convention also adopted a resolution recommending the re-election of Norman E. Mack of Buffalo, as Democratic National Committeeman.

The delegates to the National Convention which will comprise New York's "big four" were unperturbed by the nomination with the understanding that they are to work for a second term for Mr. Wilson.

The keynote speech delivered by former Governor Martin H. Glynn as permanent chairman, aroused much enthusiasm. In addition to commending the actions of Mr. Wilson during his administration, it replied directly to the criticisms of the President and his foreign policies made by former Senator Elihu Root at the recent Republican State convention in New York.

The Federal reserve act, the Underwood tariff, foreign affairs and preparedness were all dwelt upon by the former Governor.

### True to Its Trust.

"Four years ago," he said, "this Nation committed its care and welfare to the Democratic party and the Democratic party has been true to its trust. It has preserved peace, observed international law and followed the traditions of the fathers of the country."

After reviewing the legislation enacted during the Democratic control of Congress Mr. Glynn replied to Mr. Root's reference to the Federal reserve act, and charged that Mr. Root as Senator opposed the passage of the measure. The legislative act, he said, saved the country from a panic when the European war broke out, enabled the financial officers to meet the demands made upon American business and financial interests, and saved them from a repetition of the panic of 1907, which the speaker characterized as a "painful experience" that would always be an "indictment of the Republican party."

Denying that Mr. Root was "the keeper of National honor," Mr. Glynn added:

"For years Mr. Root has been the star performer at peace conferences, and yet he condemns President Wilson for maintaining peace."

"For years Mr. Root has been acclaimed an apostle of peace and in 1912 was awarded the Nobel prize for the promotion of peace, but now he sallies forth as a drum and trumpet statesman."

In his foreign policy the President, Mr. Glynn said, was following the example of Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Lincoln and Grant.

"The President," he declared, "has only shaken his finger, when he has to shake his fist the world will find it mailed."

"The efforts of politicians."

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